

MAY 17 2002

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of: )  
Hart et al. )  
Serial No. 10/052,329 )  
Filed: Jan 18, 2002 )  
For: IMPROVED SURGICAL CLIP )  
)  
)

Attorney's Docket: AUS-1828-AL

Honorable Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks  
Washington, D. C. 20231

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Dear Sir:

Enclosed please find a copy of PTO Form 1449 which lists information which may be relevant to the prosecution of the above-captioned application. Also, enclosed are copies of the references noted on the Form PTO-1449. It is requested that this information be considered by the Office.

This Statement is being submitted under the terms of 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(c). The information is being filed before the mailing of a first Office Action on the merits. Therefore, it is believed no fee is due.

Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(h), it is understood that filing of the Information Disclosure Statement does not constitute an admission that the information submitted is material to patentability.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fee deficiency, or credit any over-payment, to our Deposit Account No. 01-2215.

Respectfully submitted,

Kenneth K. Vu  
Attorney for Applicant  
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Date: May 17, 2002

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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HART, et al.

Serial No. 10/052,329

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For: IMPROVED SURGICAL CLIP

3731  
Attorney's Docket: AUS-1828

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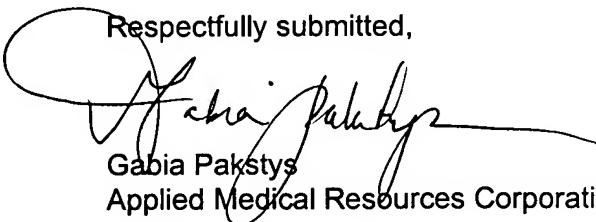
Date of Deposit: May 17, 2002

I hereby certify that the following documents as identified below are being deposited with the United States Postal Service as "Express Mail" on the date indicated above in an envelope addressed to Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks, Washington D.C. 20231:

1. Information Disclosure Statement;
2. PTO Form 1449; and
3. Return-receipt postcard.

Each of the above-identified documents is enclosed herewith.

Respectfully submitted,

  
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